

# **Brooks E. Kleber Memorial Lecture in Military History**

## *12<sup>th</sup> Annual Lecture Series*

### **Fearful Odds: A Memoir of Vietnam and Its Aftermath**

**Mr. Charles W. Newhall III**

Author and Veteran

Deep in the A Shau Valley of Vietnam, a routine mission for veteran U.S. Army troops turned into a botched operation with combat casualties, due to poor leadership in the chain of command. A firefight with North Vietnamese troops erupted from communication errors and leader confusion, and at the center, was a young Army officer, groomed for command and assigned to lead the doomed platoon on its fateful reconnaissance mission. The young officer and his band of survivors have since lived with the graphic memories of the action and the grueling months that followed, resulting in a lifetime of severe trauma, guilt, grief, and anger. Mr. Chuck Newhall will present a lecture based on his experiences as that young officer, and the years after, as part of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center's Brooks E. Kleber Memorial Lecture Series. The presentation will be based on his memoir, *Fearful Odds: A Memoir of Vietnam and Its Aftermath*.

After decades of experience managing the long-term effects of trauma and with the support of his family, Mr. Chuck Newhall has successfully come to terms with his past and the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Mr. Newhall's story is one of perseverance in the face of insurmountable odds and offers a guiding hand to others who are facing challenges on the battlefield, in the boardroom, or back at home.

Mr. Charles W. "Chuck" Newhall III served in Vietnam as commander of an independent infantry platoon, earning decorations including the Silver Star, Bronze Star V (1st OLC), and Purple Heart. After his tour in Southeast Asia, he earned a Master's in Business Administration from Harvard Business School, and an honors degree in English from the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Newhall is the co-founder of New Enterprise Associates (NEA) and has been instrumental in financing the dramatic changes in the health care and pharmaceutical/biotechnology industries. Mr. Newhall is currently working in an advisory capacity for Greensprings Associates, writing and travelling extensively for continuing education.

**DATE: Thursday, August 4, 2016**

**TIME: Doors open at 6:30 PM and the talk begins at 7:15 PM. The question period concludes around 8:30 PM.**

**PLACE: USAHEC, Visitor and Education Center, Multipurpose Rooms**

**For updates and any last minute changes in meeting times and places, please check the USAHEC homepage: [www.USAHEC.org](http://www.USAHEC.org) or call the Information Desk at 717-245-3972.**